



Brownfields 2003 Grant Fact Sheet

Baton Rouge and Parish of East Baton Rouge, LA

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The City of Baton Rouge and Parish of East Baton Rouge were selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. The city is focusing its brownfields assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment efforts on areas defined in the city's Strategic Plan for Economic Development. These areas include the city's downtown and the industrial corridor dominated by the petrochemical industry. The targeted areas are adjacent to neighborhoods with the greatest concentrations of minorities and highest rates of poverty and unemployment. One predominantly minority neighborhood has 33 percent poverty and 13 percent unemployment rates. The assessment of properties in the target areas will leverage private resources for the cleanup and reuse of brownfield sites and stimulate the local economy.



Assessment Grant

New
2003

\$200,000 for hazardous substances

\$200,000 for petroleum

EPA has selected the City of Baton Rouge and Parish of East Baton Rouge for a brownfields assessment grant. The city plans to assess three sites contaminated by hazardous substances and three sites contaminated by petroleum. Additional sites contaminated by hazardous substances or petroleum will be assessed as they enter a property-transfer environmental management process established under a new state law. Grant funds also will be used to involve the community through partnerships with community-based organizations.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 6 Brownfields Team

214-665-6735

<http://www.epa.gov/earth1r6/6sf/bfpages/sfbfhome.htm>

Grant Recipient: Baton Rouge and Parish of East Baton Rouge, LA

225-389-3144

Prior to receipt of these funds in fiscal year 2003, the City of Baton Rouge has received brownfields funding for an assessment grant.

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.